GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:839
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2005
NATIONAL HERITAGE SITES COMMISSION
Yadav Shri Sita Ram

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to set up a National Heritage Sites Commission for framing a policy for preservation of the heritage sites in the country;

(b) if so, the details including the composition and terms of reference thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

Answer

MINISTER FOR INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a)&(b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Culture proposes to constitute a National Heritage Sites Commission. As the present legal and institutional framework is not adequate to address the documentation, inventorisation and conservation of built heritage in its broadest outline, it is proposed to constitute a Heritage Sites Commission. The Commission would lay down broad policy guidelines and take steps to ensure that such guidelines are observed.

The composition and mandate of the proposed Heritage Sites Commission is being worked out. It is expected that the Commission would:

- tender advice to the Government on heritage matters.
- frame guidelines in the matter of conservation of heritage monuments and sites.
- can study or cause to study in important matters regarding conservation of heritage and submit reports to the Government.
- suggest appropriate amendments to the existing heritage legislations, with specific terms of references for stocktaking and studying the present heritage laws and regulations, the practices followed in the leading European countries and suggest the ways of setting up a Heritage Site.

(c) The Commission could be set up after the enactment of an appropriate legislation, on which work is on.